

INTRODUCTION: The purpose of this paper is to address the seven points made in the attachment to a McLean Citizens Association letter, dated 27 March 1986, sent to the CIA and signed by Gloria Adams, President.

MCA position: Construction of the additional lane on the inner loop of the beltway to facilitate the exit onto the inbound George Washington Parkway should be advanced to the earliest date possible. (VDH&T says this will be done by 1991.)

CIA response: The Agency has notified Congressman Frank Wolf's senior transportation aide that we will include a \$500,000 funding request in our FY 1988 Congressional Budget submission. Mr. Fitzwater, in prior discussions with Congressman Wolf on this subject, had indicated that he hoped the Agency would be able to identify this funding in FY 1987. We have attempted to honor Mr. Fitzwater's hope, but the combined impacts of the increased cost of constructing the New Headquarters Building and the Gramm-Ruddman-Hollings legislation in FY 1987 will result in the non-availability of the needed funds in that time frame. Congressman Wolf's office accepted this reality and agreed that the Agency's new funding plan was a fair and reasonable one.

MCA position: Needed safety improvements for the intersection of Old Chain Bridge Road and Route 193 should be moved forward promptly. Action should be taken to accommodate concerns expressed by the Fairfax Historical Society with respect to archaeological sites there.

CIA position: The Agency fully supports the community position on this issue, and has formally notified the Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation (VDH&T), in writing, of our position. In addition, we have discussed this matter with VDH&T personnel in its Northern Virginia district office, in the person of Mr. David Gehr, on several occasions, most recently this morning. Mr. Gehr advises the following with respect to this need:

the project is FUNDED in the VDH&T current 6-year improvement program.

preliminary plans for this project have been completed. The project involves reducing the height of the hill in front of the Country Day School and realigning the intersection at the foot of the hill (old Rte 123 and Rte 193) to the maximum extent possible within the existing VDH&T right-of-way.

the project is currently in the environmental impact phase, out of which will result an environmental impact statement that will address, amongst other issues, the impact of the project on the historical archaeological findings already discovered.

the worst case completion date provided by VDH&T for this environmental review process is January 1987.

VDH&T is currently planning to advertise the project for bids during the summer of 1987.

the Federal Highway Administration, which must approve the environmental impact statement, is considering invoking an accelerated review procedure, called "a categorical 4F statement" which, if approved, could reduce the environmental review process to half of that now included in the VDH&T schedule.

Mrs. Dorothy McCormick, of the Country Day School, has been fully briefed on all of the information shown above by Mr. David Gehr of the Northern Virginia office of VDH&T. To the best of my knowledge, Mrs. McCormick has not expressed displeasure or undue concern with the VDH&T plan to accomplish this project.

MCA position: The curvature of Route 193 just north of its terminus at Route 123 (adjacent Evermay) should be moved east as far as is feasible -- as much as 40 feet.

CIA response: The Agency requested that the VDH&T take a further and harder look at this issue than it appeared it had at the 29 January 1986 Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting. The Ad Hoc Committee for Traffic To/From the CIA expressed concern that the Agency was ignoring its concern about both noise and aesthetic pollution that would result from the positioning of the Rte. 193 roadway too close to the eastern boundary of Section 7 of Evermay. In fact, the Agency, in late January 1986, asked the VDH&T to fully stop the detailed design of the roadway Option #2 that was selected by the TAC membership and to, instead, develop an expanded set of detailed design alternatives for consideration.

The Agency has now received three detailed roadway design options and five detailed earth berm design options. We asked that the VDH&T submit them to its normal engineering review process and to make the results of this review process a matter of record. The VDH&T has since determined that only one of the detailed roadway designs meets normal and generally accepted roadway safety and effective traffic handling standards. They have also concluded that four of the five detailed earth berm designs are acceptable. This information is available for your review and retention.

The final VDH&T finding is that the Route 193 section just north of its terminus at Route 123 cannot be moved any further east than shown in the proposed Dewberry and Davis design.

As designed, the separations between the edge of the VDH&T right-of-way on Route 193 and the edge of the Route 193 roadway itself are as follow:

- near the intersection of Route 193 and Turkey Run Farms Road -- approximately 60 feet;
- at the intersection of Routes 193 and 123 -- approximately 35 feet; and
- at the mid-point between the two locations identified above -- approximately 55 feet.

The VDH&T states that Option #2 was never more than a marginal design to begin with, and that there is literally no way to further modify the conceptual design and still maintain necessary safety and traffic handling standards.

While the Agency understands that the representative of the Ad Hoc Committee takes exception to this conclusion, the Agency is nonetheless unwilling to superimpose its lay judgment on the findings of senior, experienced VDH&T engineering management. We sincerely regret not being able to resolve this issue in favor of our residential neighbors, but feel that we have arrived at this conclusion after thorough and thoughtful consideration of all of the issues involved.

MCA position: That portion of the existing Route 123 right-of-way which will be vacated when the roadway is moved to the North as planned should be retained by VDH&T as a permanent buffer to the adjacent residential community.

CIA response: The Agency fully concurs with this community concern. The VDH&T has advised the Agency in writing that "...these areas will (be retained) for open space as suggested at the committee meeting..." This correspondence is also available for your review and retention.

MCA position: A traffic signal should be placed at the intersection of Saville Lane and Route 123, notwithstanding the fact, which AHC acknowledges, that it does not satisfy the county warrants.

CIA position: The TAC requested that the VDH&T again review this community request. The VDH&T agreed to do so, and has, within the last week, advised the Agency that it will place a traffic light at the intersection of Saville Lane and Route 123, as requested. The result will be four traffic lights, all synchronized in accordance with standard VDH&T procedures, running from the Potomac School Road and Route 123 intersection to the Kirby Road and Route 123 intersection (the remaining lights being located at the CIA entrance and at Saville Lane respectively).

To our knowledge, this VDH&T action fully satisfies the stated concern of the community.

MCA position: The bike trail along the north side of Route 123, adjacent Evermay, should be removed. AHC contends that the trail does not connect with other pedestrian or bike paths, and has become an eyesore.

CIA position: The Agency feels that the issue of removing the trail along the north side of Route 123 adjacent Evermay is a matter to be dealt with between the MCA and the Fairfax County government, inasmuch as our information suggests that this trail is a part of the official Fairfax County Trail Plan.

On a related issue, the MCA has previously requested, in correspondence dated 13 November 1984, that the Agency build a short asphalt trail which would provide a connection between the sidewalk on the south side of Route 123 and the trail which is to be built on the north side of Route 193. The VDH&T's design contractor, Dewberry and Davis, has recently confirmed that such a trail would be in full accordance with the Fairfax County Trail Plan, and the Agency has therefore agreed to fully accommodate this community request.

MCA position: AHC urges the CIA not to move unnecessary numbers of people into its expanded facility prior to completion of the road improvements.

CIA position: The Agency, in a letter to the current President of the MCA dated 15 July 1983, advised the community that: "...With your support and assistance, we should be able to see the necessary road improvements in place before the new building is ready for occupancy. Should unforeseen problems arise that prevent this from occurring, we will at least try to time our occupancy plans to coincide with the capacity of the local road network. The Agency does not plan to force occupancy of the new facility if it creates unwarranted traffic problems for the community and our employees...."

The Agency's plans and intentions have not changed since that letter was written. We fully appreciate that it would be unreasonable to burden an insufficient roadway system with significant additional automobile traffic, and we will do everything within our power not to do so. Our detailed discussions with the VDH&T indicate that a reasonable completion date for all Route 123 and associated roadway modifications is late December, 1987. Our current planning for the occupancy of the New Headquarters Building are not in conflict with this schedule. We feel as though we have been sensitive to this community concern and have scheduled our occupancy plans accordingly. In the event that our plans are changed in any significant way, we will notify the local community and work with our residential neighbors in every way possible to mitigate any hardship that may arise.